International Journal of Consumer Studies

CALL FOR PAPERS

Promoting and Debating

Political and Ethical Consumerism

around the World

Special Issue - September 2006

The *International Journal of Consumer Studies* is designed to provide an international forum for academic and research papers about consumer affairs. It publishes studies of goods and services from a user perspective on topics such as access and awareness, design and quality, information and choice, marketing and advice, rights and responsibilities, and standards and safety.

The journal invites submissions for a special issue on Political and Ethical Consumerism. The concepts draw the attention to broader consumer concerns as increasingly important bases for political and ideological struggles, for instance through consumer debates, protests, boycotts or ‘buycotts’, with regards to products, production processes or producers. Social, environmental, and public health concerns are important bases for such consumer activism.

Manuscripts are particularly welcome on the following topics in the context of political and ethical consumerism:

- Eco- and fair-trade labelling, certification, and codes of conduct as tools
- Comparisons of organisational, market-, and policy conditions
- Mobilisation and coalition-building in developing and debating political consumerism
- Translations of scientific complexity and uncertainty into simplified consumer information
- Political consumerism as a promise to improve North/South/East/West relations
- The role of the media, and the Internet for setting the agenda for ethical consumerism
- The roles of governments
- Views of different stakeholders concerning conflict resolutions as regards political consumerism
- Assessing effectiveness, legitimacy and accountability
- Normative criteria for ‘success’ and ‘failure’ of consumer activism
- Democratic and participatory dimensions of consumerism.

This list is by no means exhaustive, and may focus on particular issues, systems or target groups. Articles may be theoretical, report on detailed research, or reflect on practice. They should also add significantly to the published research literature in this area.

This issue of the journal is intended for anyone with an academic or professional interest in consumer studies, who wishes to write from a local, national or international perspective. The aim is to get contribution from several parts of the world. Submitting a manuscript will be an opportunity to join other eminent authorities in the field who have helped to disseminate research studies on political and ethical Consumerism.

Expressions of interest and an outline of the proposed paper should be submitted electronically by 31st October 2005 to: mikael.klintman@fpi.lu.se and magnus.bostrom@score.su.se In addition, send four paper copies to Magnus Boström, Score, SE-106 91 Stockholm, Sweden.

Further details are available from Mikael Klintman, Magnus Boström, and on the journal’s homepage at: www.blackwellpublishing.com/journals/ijc